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AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the specification beginning at line 16, page 2, as reflected in the following marked-up version of the paragraph:

However, authentication credentials for a computer network may be compromised in a number of ways, including brute force attacks, monitoring network traffic, and gaining access to third-party systems that store authentication credentials. In a brute force attack, a large number of potential authentication credentials, perhaps all possible combinations, are submitted to a computer network. For example, a four-digit PIN (personal identification number) could be discovered by submitting the numbers from 0000 to 9999. Although submitting ten thousand numbers may seem like a significant task, for computers the imposition is minimal at best.

Please amend the specification beginning at line 19, page 11, as reflected in the following marked-up version of the paragraph:

Embodiments within the scope of the present invention also include computer-readable media for carrying or having computer-executable instructions or data structures stored thereon. Such computer-readable media can be any available media which can be accessed by a general purpose or special purpose computer. By way of example, and not limitation, such computer-readable media can comprise RAM (random access memory), ROM (read-only memory), EEPROM (electrically erasable programmable read-only memory), CD-ROM (compact disk read-only memory) or other optical disk storage, magnetic disk storage or other magnetic storage devices, or any other medium which can be used to carry or store desired program code means in the form of computerexecutable instructions or data structures and which can be accessed by a general purpose or special purpose computer. When information is transferred or provided over a network or another communications connection (either hardwired, wireless, or a combination of hardwired or wireless) to a computer, the computer properly views the connection as a computer-readable medium. Thus, any such a connection is properly termed a computer-readable medium. Combinations of the above should also be included within the scope of computer-Computer-executable instructions comprise, for example, instructions and data which cause a general purpose computer, special purpose computer, or special purpose processing device to perform a certain function or group of functions.

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Please amend the specification beginning at line 8, page 13, through line 23, page 15, as reflected in the following marked-up paragraphs:

With reference to Figure 1, an exemplary system for implementing the invention includes a general purpose computing device in the form of a conventional computer 20120, including a processing unit 21121, a system memory 22122, and a system bus 23-123 that couples various system components including the system memory 22-122 to the processing unit 21124. The system bus 23-123 may be any of several types of bus structures including a memory bus or memory controller, a peripheral bus, and a local bus using any of a variety of bus architectures. The system memory includes read only memory (ROM) 24 124 and random access memory (RAM) 25125. A basic input/output system (BIOS) 26126, containing the basic routines that help transfer information between elements within the computer 20120, such as during start-up, may be stored in ROM 24124.

The computer 20-120 may also include a magnetic hard disk drive 27-127 for reading from and writing to a magnetic hard disk 39139, a magnetic disk drive 28-128 for reading from or writing to a removable magnetic disk 29129, and an optical disk drive 30-130 for reading from or writing to removable optical disk 13131 such as a CD-ROM or other optical media. The magnetic hard disk drive 27127, magnetic disk drive 28128, and optical disk drive 30-130 are connected to the system bus 23-123 by a hard disk drive interface 32132, a magnetic disk drive-interface 33133, and an optical drive interface 34134, respectively. The drives and their associated computer-readable media provide nonvolatile storage of computer-executable instructions, data structures, program modules and other data for the computer 20120. Although the exemplary environment described herein employs a magnetic hard disk 39139, a removable magnetic disk 29-129 and a removable optical disk 3131, other types of computer readable media for storing data can be used, including magnetic cassettes, flash memory cards, digital video disks, Bernoulli cartridges, RAMs, ROMs, and the like.

Program code means comprising one or more program modules may be stored on the hard disk 39139, magnetic disk 29129, optical disk 31131, ROM 24 124 or RAM 25125, including an operating system 35135, one or more application programs 36136, other program modules 37137, and program data 38138. A user may enter commands and information into the computer 20-120 through keyboard 40140, pointing device 42142, or other input devices (not shown), such as a microphone, joy stick, game pad, satellite dish, scanner, or the like. These and other input devices are often connected to the processing unit 21 121 through a serial port interface 46-146 coupled to system bus 23123. Alternatively, the input devices may be connected by other interfaces, such as a parallel port, a game port or a universal serial bus (USB). A monitor 47-147 or another display device is also connected to system bus 23-123 via an interface,

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such as video adapter 48148. In addition to the monitor, personal computers typically include other peripheral output devices (not shown), such as speakers and printers.

The computer 20-120 may operate in a networked environment using logical connections to one or more remote computers, such as remote computers 49a-149a and 49b-149b. Remote computers 149a-49a and 149b-49b may each be another personal computer (PC), a server, a router, a network PC, a peer device or other common network node, and typically include many or all of the elements described above relative to the computer 20120, although only memory storage devices 50a-150a and 50b-150b and their associated application programs 36a 136a and 36b-136b have been illustrated in Figure 1. The logical connections depicted in Figure 1 include a local area network (LAN) 51-151 and a wide area network (WAN) 52-152 that are presented here by way of example and not limitation. Such networking environments are commonplace in office-wide or enterprise-wide computer networks, intranets and the Internet.

When used in a LAN networking environment, the computer 20-120 is connected to the local network \$1-151 through a network interface or adapter 53153. When used in a WAN networking environment, the computer 20-120 may include a modern 54154, a wireless link, or other means for establishing communications over the wide area network 52152, such as the Internet. The modern 54154, which may be internal or external, is connected to the system bus 23-123 via the serial port interface 46146. In a networked environment, program modules depicted relative to the computer 20120, or portions thereof, may be stored in the remote memory storage device. It will be appreciated that the network connections shown are exemplary and other means of establishing communications over wide area network 52-152 may be used.